Number 29, December 1969. Monthly from Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd., Mentor, Ohio 44060, for 10¢ a copy (no matter how many copies you order -- the Post Office does not give us a lower rate for quantity, so we can't give you one), free copies for usable news items, really interesting unusable items, cartoons or interestingly-lettered title logos. A few back issues are available at 10¢ each (#11 15 24 25 27 28). Can also be persuaded to part with copies of How to Survive Comics Fandom @ 20¢ each; that's a one-shot. Circulation this issue: 274.

Heading cartoon (depicting Noteven, a mouse famed for stirring about this time each year?) by James H. Shull.

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MARVEL TO PUBLISH CONAN

Conan, the barbarian hero created by Robert E. Howard and continued (with sharply varying degrees of success) by L. Sprague de Camp, Lin Carter and Bjorn Nyberg, is now being written for comics by Roy Thomas. Artist will be Barry Smith (with an inker yet to be selected) and the book should be out in the spring.

CAPTAIN MARVEL LIVES and will be back in his own book, written by Roy Thomas and drawn by Gil Kane, as soon as possible. Sales of the improved Thomas/Kane version were quite impressive. Roy had planned to feature him in the Avengers book, maybe bring him back as half a book shared with Doc Strange, until the sales figures came in.

GREEN LANTERN LIVES, TOO, at least for a while, but there will be some changes made. Like, Neal Adams will draw it, GL will be teamed with Green Arrow. GL and GA will tour the country in a Jeep, accompanied by a Guardian, fighting hate, prejudice, bigotry and such. There will be greater emphasis on characterization and GL will have his ring-powers diminished somewhat.

ALL IN COLOR FOR A DIME LIVES, TOO, MAYBE, though the book has not yet been published and won't be until spring. Reviews have appeared, but they were written from galley proofs. Fault for the delay? Well, let's just say it is not the fault of the two editors, the 11 contributors and most emphatically not the fault of the publisher, Arlington House, which has bent over backward to be generous to the editors.

ROBIN MAY FADE AWAY in World's Finest, too, to bring those stories in line with the story patterns now in effect in Detective and Batman. Incidentally, DC now has a hard-and-fast rule against slanty panels in its books. Such a rule makes no more sense than requiring that all books have slanty panels, and it hampers Neal Adams' work considerably. But zose are zee rules.

All Marvels now sell well (a new distributor helped); DC is doing well, too, but has a lot of deadwood.

CAPT. GEORGE DEPARTMENT

Capt. George Henderson, 594 Markham Street, Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada, heads the Vast Whizzbang Organization. And he has passed on news of one sort and another. (Let us point out, first, that he produces some of the nicest fanzines out today. Captain George's Comic World is 10 issues for $3, 20 issues for $3.50, and The New Captain George's Whizzbang is 5 issues for $2, 10 issues for $3.50--don't order in smaller quantities, please. CGCW reprints what will eventually be a history of comic art filled with samples of such things as ancient comic strips, articles about comic art, stories from old comic books, and promotional art for comics. TNCGW has articles on movies, science fiction, comic art, and the like--all very pleasantly done. The Movies, a new Vast Whizzbang Winner, will be 10 issues for $3--and reprints articles, photos, and ads on--the movies.) Toronto, says Cap George, will be hosting Fan Fair II--which is sponsored by the Ontario Science Fiction Club, the Vast Whizzbang Organization, and Canadian fandom--with the generous permission of Heicon's committee (who are putting on the World SF Con in Heidelberg). It will be held in Toronto August 21-23, 1970, will said Fan Fair II--at the King Edward Sheraton Hotel. For full details, copies of progress reports, and information about Toronto, send a postcard to Fan Fair II, c/o Peter Gill, 18 Glen Manor Drive, Toronto 13, Ontario, Canada. ## There will be no new CGCWs until January 15, but CG is two months ahead of schedule, anyway. Incidentally, if you ever have any problems with your order to Captain G, just write him about it; he wishes to advise all that Canada has a bad post office, and that the U.S. post office is not to blame. (We'd not say that on all occasions, no.) ## He'd also like to make it clear that VWO is not in financial trouble, as one fanzine has indicated recently; he'd also like to make it clear that CGCW is not The Comic World--a fanzine of which he wasn't aware when he began publishing. ## By the way, VWO is plotting to take over where The Canadian Academy of Comic Book Collectors left off. Members should be interested in (a) comic art, (b) science fiction, and (c) films; plans are that a quarterly page tabloid newspaper will be issued. All this is still in the formative stage... ## And it seems that the phantom comic book thief mentioned in last issue (of NF) has skipped town (Toronto). Toronto fans may breathe easier, but the rest of us...

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Joe Sarno, 4717 North Harding Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625

NEWS FROM BILL SPICER

"Junior Woodchucks #6 (April 1970) has a couple of Barks-written scripts, and one of them, 'Peril of the Black Forest,' 14 pages, is one of his best of recent years. Its theme is anti-big-city and industrial pollution of the land--and city-complexes taking over wild timberland. (Might also be a swipe at the two Disneyland projects, too, but I'm not sure.) Scrooge buys the entire Black Forest and is going to raze it for building 'Duckburg East--The City of Tomorrow!' Too bad Barks couldn't have drawn this one himself; the script is really a fine effort. The artist who did draw it, though, must have dug the story, too, because he put out for it. Just hope it doesn't lose anything in the inking. I lettered."

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John Balge says the October 4 Rolling Stone commented on the inclusion of Country Joe and the Fish in the last issue of SHIELD. "And just when festivals were getting peaceful, too." He also mentions that Tom Wolfe's The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test, with numerous references to Marvel and other superheroes, is now out in paperback from Bantam (Q4717, $1.25). And indicates we oughta mention that there have been several There Oughta Be a Law paperbacks over the years. ## Dan Fleming clipped the (ickh) Sally Bananas strip for Nov 14--which featured a blond Capt. Marvel. Hm, wonder if Fawcett/National saw it... ## Hames Ware notes that Pete Costanza and Mrs. Costanza were in an auto accident--both shaken up but all right--which may be the origin of that incorrect death rumor we mentioned an issue or so ago. ## Wayne Boglitsch sends word that You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown will close its run in Milwaukee December 7, its local producer of the touring company saying, "response...has been less than overwhelming." It ran less than a month there. The show will move on.

NF QUERY: If Jim Warren's policy is not to use work by artists who work for Web of Horror, does this mean we won't be inflicted with any more "Tony Williamsune" stuff in Warren mags? I mean, like, look at the "Alfred Payan" story in WoH #2; under any name, Tony Tallarico is not the greatest artist in the world.

News from Editor & Publisher (Nov 22): Roy Crane (Buz Sawyer, for you strip illiterates) was given the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the University of Texas and was presented with a silver bowl by his fraternity, Phi Kappa Psi. ## Mort Walker has done a pocket-size comic book titled "Now Hear This, Beetle Bailey." It was done as a voluntary contribution to explain to military personnel how the Red Cross can help in the transition to civilian life. 500,000 copies are being distributed at military installations (mostly those overseas)--and Walker has also done two posters for the Red Cross, one for civilian consumption, one for military. ## The Wade Allen Syndicate is syndicating Black History by A. Samuel Milai--a weekly cartoon feature. Milai is a 61-year-old black cartoonist, art editor of the Pittsburgh Courier 1945-1966 and teacher of cartooning at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. The feature is "intended to give blacks a sense of identity, pride in their past and promise and inspiration for the future."

Our foreign correspondent, Bob Latona, reports, "The local (Mallorca, Spain) press reports that the Barcelona town council recently unveiled a monument dedicated to Walt Disney in a ceremony attended by thousands of children. The sculpture was by Nuria Tortas and is placed at the entrance to the zoo, near the Museum of Modern Art."

The Des Moines (Iowa) Sunday Register for Oct 26 featured a front-page article on old-time radio, according to Greg Bell--who also notes that Blondie is advertising Kodak, that Dennis the Menace is again in Sears' Christmas catalog, that The American Legion Magazine regularly features art by Mad cartoonists Bob Clarke and George Woodbridge, and that Parade recently featured a short article on the underground press and mentioned a book called The Underground Press in America by Robert Glessing. Does anyone have a Books In Print for more data on that?

Chester Gould's birthday was November 20, says Bart Bush--who also says that the 15-chapter Flash Gordon is the first to be shown at Oklahoma University. ## And Rick Durell responds to our gloomy news item last issue (that Rob Gluckson is allergic to pulp paper). Rick reports, "I think I can tell you for sure that Rob has taken his doctor's advice (or is giving it a go). He told me of a big LA comic club meet and that he had gotten the meet together in order to sell out his comics, etc. I wonder how long he will be able to stay away from collecting (if he really makes the start, that is). Once it's in a person's blood, it's a hard thing to break away from."

Fred Patten notes that the same issue of Publishers' Weeklywith the All in Color for a Dime review (Oct 20) had an article on Richard Scarry (children's book illustrator) with his comment on his own books: "In a sense they are like comic books, but in a different format. In most of my books, you can follow the pictures one after another, basically the same as you would a comic strip. Although 'comics' is a dirty word to some people, there are very good comic strips and very bad comic strips, just the same as there is good writing and bad writing." Fred also asks about a portion of the AICFAD review ("Illustrated with 16 pages of sock-bang-pow examples. Erik Erikson, where are you now that we need you?"), who is Erik Erikson? Anyone out there know?

Joe Sarno notes that the Feb Popular Jokes has 4 pages of Devil Doone strips and the Jan issue of Popular Cartoons has 6 pages of Basil Wolverton's Supersonic Sammy. ## Did you notice the picture over the mantel at the Hulk's wedding? Seems Roy Thomas once met an army colonel with a photo of an atom blast over his mantel. Honest. ## The Financial Post (a Canadian paper) for Oct 11 has a huge article headlined "Your introduction and plain guide to the underground press in Canada (Which, man, can be of commercial and cultural importance even to squares)." Yes.

Leslie Turner, Captain Easy artist since 1943, has retired, though his strips will be appearing into January. Turner, who retired Nov. 30, will be 70 Christmas Day. His associate, Bill Crooks, will continue the strip with Jim Lawrence. The Sunday strip, presumably, will continue to be done by Mel Graff. # The Pat Oliphant Book, containing the work of one of the brightest and best editorial cartoonists, is $5.75 from Simon & Schuster. Sight unseen, highly recommended. ## Hank (Dennis the Menace) Ketcham is doing a new strip, Half Hitch, about funny sailors. It starts 16 Feb 70. # John Brinkerhoff and Bob Campbell, a couple of Clevelanders, have started a Viking humor strip called Norse by Norsewest -- it is abominable. # VaughnBodé will have a strip called Sunpot in Galaxy Science Fiction starting with the Jan 70 issue. # Avengers 75-76 features a sword&sorcery villain and some outstanding artwork (we are told) by John Buscema & Tom Palmer.

Witching Hour has a couple of special issues coming up. #8 has 3 stories plotted by Sergio Aragones with dialogue by the artists -- Neal Adams, Nick Cardy, Alex Toth. A later issue will contain three space-theme stories, drawn by Stanley Pitt, Jeff Jones and Al Williamson (the Pitt is the one we mentioned quite a while back). Al Williamson's other story should be appearing soon in, probably, House of Mystery. Fawcett's Peanuts paperback series is doing well, 37,000,000 copies in print. # Watch for You Could Diet Laughing (Dell 9830-1, 50¢) by Stan & Jan Berenstain. # Grosset & Dunlap has reissued the original Krazy Kat hardcover with e. e. cummings' introduction about the same time Nostalgia Press brought out the new collection. # # Ron Goulart's The Assault on Childhood is/will be serialized in a tabloid, Tatler. Ron has a novel (Sword Swallower) coming from Dell in January or so (60¢) and is finishing up a couple of novels, a history of the pulp mags and will have a story collection from Macmillan soon. # Was Jason's Quest thought up at DC before the Then Came Bronson movie was aired about a year ago or just before the series began? # We missed Creepy #30 (distribution troubles?) and would like to buy a replacement (well, not a replacement, but you know what I meant).

The Disney movie schedule for the next few months: Christmas, 101 Dalmatians; January, Fantasia (many intelligent persons consider this the best movie anyone ever made); February, The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes; April, King of the Grizzlies; June, Sleeping Beauty; July, The Newcomers; August, The Boatniks. Next Christmas will see release of the studio's newest cartoon feature, The Aristocats.

Marvel characters are being used in posters promoting "Toys for Tots" -- one we saw had Thor, Captain America and Spiderman as done by Jack Kirby (maybe inked by Mike Royer?). # Matt Mason didn't make it into his own comic book in the US (DC changed it into Glenn Merritt), but he has a strip under his own name in the Italian comic mag, Corriere del Piccoli and has had for some time, says Ron Harris. # In England, comic strip ads are enticing 15-year-old boys to sign up for 12-year hitches in the army -- some 12,000 boys per year in the 15-17 bracket. # Zap #4 is "out of print" -- actually, the law confiscated it because of a pro-incest strip. R. Crumb's newest comic is Despair Comics, which is quite good (adults only). We also liked Jay Lynch's Bijou Funnies #3. San Francisco Comic Book Co., 3339 23rd St., San Francisco, Calif. will be happy to sell them to you at 65¢ each. ## The Grateful Dead will portray inept train robbers in a forthcoming Dustin Hoffman western.

Jim Berry (Berry's World) is moving to Washington and will also be writing some political satire. # A hippie paper, the Miami Free Press, changed its name to (are you ready?) The Daily Planet. # John Fawcett had a display of his paintings -- which are largely Disney-derived -- in a St. Louis college gallery in September. the Post-Dispatch ran one of those "I know more about art than the artist" reviews. The Buck Rogers book is getting a fair amount of writeups in newspapers, most of them chuckleheaded, as the one in the Cleveland Plain Dealer which said the strip was killed in July 1967 "when science caught up with the comic strip." It then goes on to discuss the strip's speed sleds, atomic disintegrator guns, weightless flight and antigravity metals. Sure, science has caught up with science fiction. Sure. Same article says John Flint Dille originated Buck Rogers; for the record, Phillip Francis Nowlan did that, in two stories in Amazing Stories now available in paperback from Ace as Armageddeon 2429 AD.##At the risk of sounding unAmerican, Peace.